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GARGOYLES: BAD GUYS

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GARGOYLES: BAD GUYS

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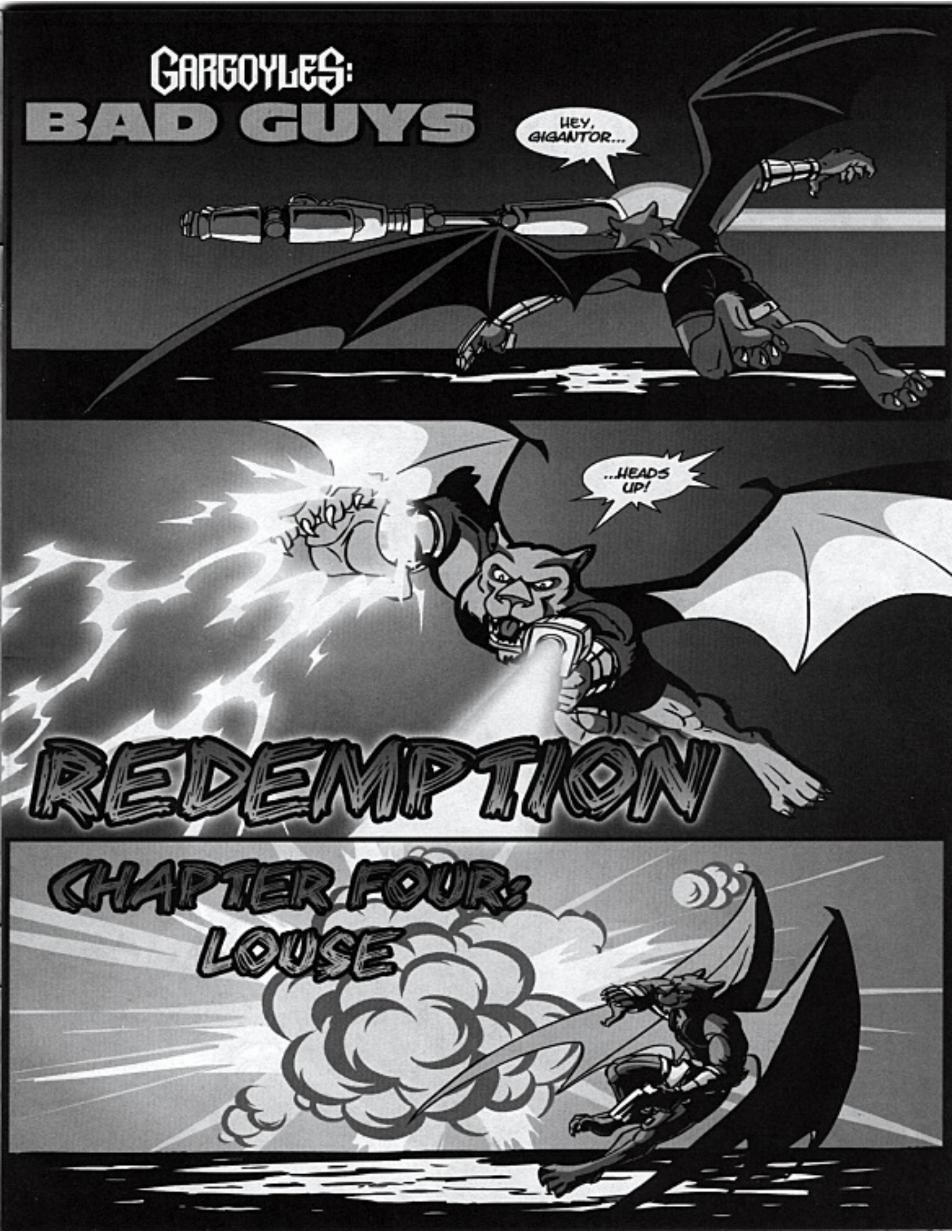

GARGOYLES:
BAD GUYS
HEY, GIGANTOR...
...HEADS UP!
REDEMPTION
CHAPTER FOUR:
LOUSE

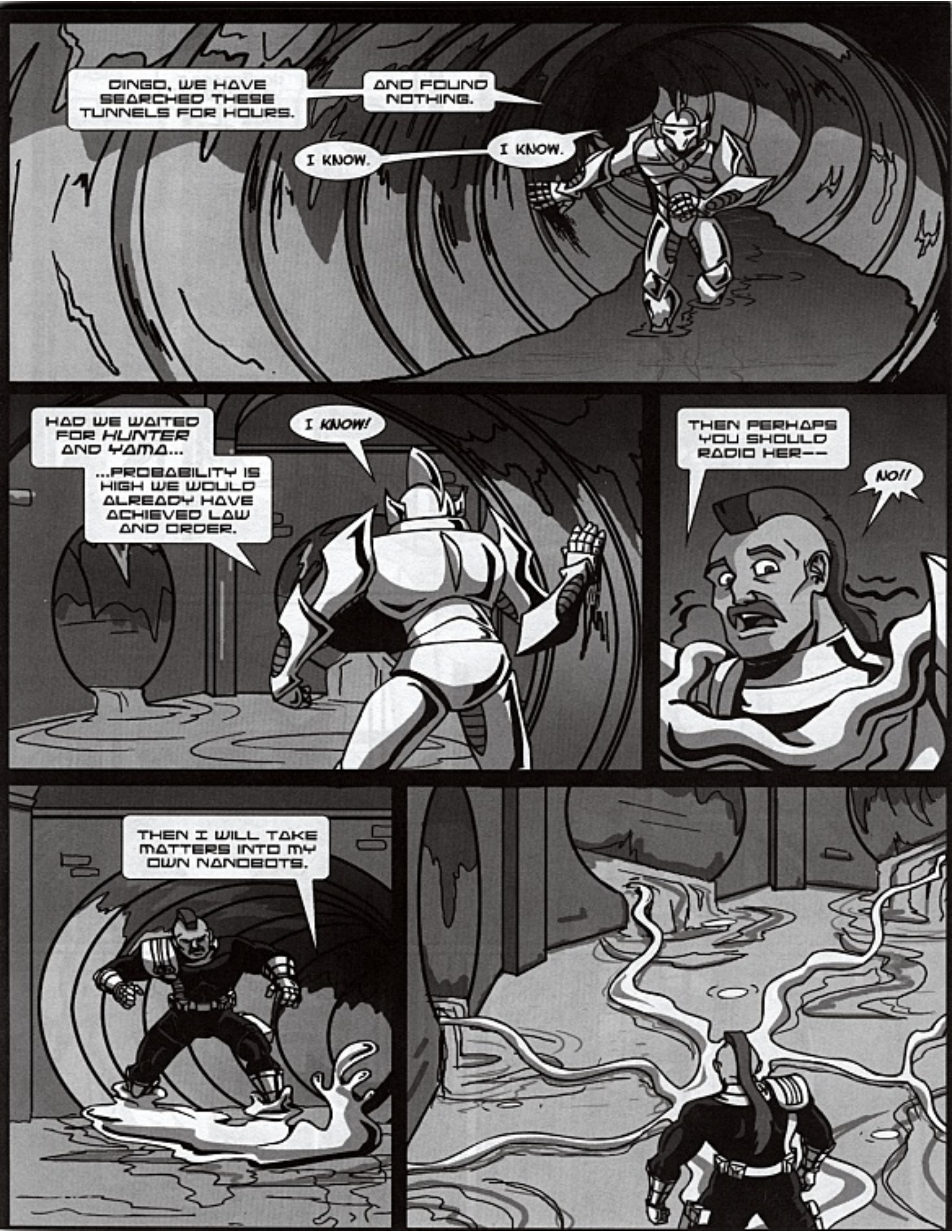
YOU KNOW, I WAS TRYING TO RUN AWAY GRACEFULLY...

NICE SHOOTING...
...HUH, PAL?
HEY, YAMA...
...YOU'RE WELCOME!

FIVE DAYS AGO...

DOC DOESN'T CARE FOR TOURISTS, SWEET-CHEEKS.
SO HOW 'BOUT I SEND YOU PACKING...
...IN PIECES SMALL ENOUGH TO PACK?

YOU MADE NO MOVE TO DEFEND YOURSELF.
I WAS.... CHOOSING MY MOMENT.
WHAT IS THAT THING? A GAR--
NO. THE SCENT IS WRONG.
HE REEKS OF FISH, HUMANITY... AND OZONE.


DINGO, WE HAVE SEARCHED THESE TUNNELS FOR HOURS.
AND FOUND NOTHING.
I KNOW.
I KNOW.
HAD WE WAITED FOR *HUNTER* AND YAMA...
...PROBABILITY IS HIGH WE WOULD ALREADY HAVE ACHIEVED LAW AND ORDER.
I KNOW!
THEN PERHAPS YOU SHOULD RADIO HER--
NO!!
THEN I WILL TAKE MATTERS INTO MY OWN NANOBOTS.

HUNTER.
HUNTER.
AH, GOOD. YOU'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR SOME
I HAD FORGOTTEN HOW *FRAGILE* YOU HUMANS ARE.
I'M FINE.
EXCELLENT...
WOULDN'T WANT THE LAB RAT DAMAGED *BEFORE* THE EXPERIMENT...
INDEED. AND WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
SEVARIUS.
SOMEHOW, I DOUBT IT'S ROBYN *CORREY*, HMMM?
NO MATTER.
HAVE YOU MET YOUR *CELL-MATES*?

THIS IS TASHA...
...AND LITTLE BENNY...
I'M A ROLY-POLY BUG.
...BIG SISTER ERIN...
YOU'RE A PILL BUG.
...AND THE RELIABLE THUG.
ROLY-POLY.
PILL.
TECHNICALLY, HE'S A WOODLOUSE.
A CLIENT ASKED ME TO INVESTIGATE THE PRACTICALITY...
...OF CREATING AN ARMY OF ARMORED MUTATES.
OUR FRIENDS HERE REPRESENT MY FIRST FEW CAUTIOUS STABS...
CAUTIOUS?!

BUT YOU'LL CHANGE US BACK SOON?
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
DOC ISN'T BIG ON SHIFTING INTO REVERSE!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO US?
FOR SCIENCE, WHICH, AS MY ASSOCIATE FANG INDICATED, MUST MOVE EVER FORWARD.
PLUS THERE'S THE MONEY...
...AND I DO LOVE THE DRAMA!

BUT IT'S SO TEDIOUS BEING FORCED TO ABDUCT THE OCCASIONAL MISFIT FROM THE LABYRINTH...
I NEED TO CONDUCT MY RESEARCH ON A GRANDER SCALE!
THAT'S WHY I CREATED CV-1997.
A CARRIER VIRUS?!
"INDEED, THOUGH ONE WITH A SHORT ATTENTION SPAN..."
"...AND A DIVERSE PORTFOLIO."
"RELEASED IN A CROWD, IT WOULD CREATE A WONDERFUL VARIETY OF MUTATES WITHOUT SPREADING TO THE GENERAL POPULATION."
"IF ONLY I COULD FIND A CROWD..."

IN THE MEANTIME, THERE'S ANOTHER TEST I'VE WANTED TO RUN...
...TO SEE HOW HOMO SAPIENS FAIRS WHEN MUTATED WITH GARGATE DNA...
NO...
...NOT THAT!
WHOSE DNA SPECIFICALLY?
OH, NOT YOURS. I TOOK A SAMPLE, OF COURSE...
...BUT THERE HASN'T BEEN TIME TO PREP IT INTO A MUTAGEN.
NO, THIS JUICE WAS SQUEEZED FROM A SWEET YOUNG THING NAMED ANGELA...
I THINK THE RESULTS WILL BE QUITE STRIKING!
AND DON'T YOU FEEL LEFT OUT.
I'M ALSO CURIOUS TO SEE WHAT HUMAN MUTAGEN DOES TO GARGOYLES...
...AREN'T YOU?

WHICH HUMAN?
"WHICH HUMAN?" OH, I LIKE YOU.
YOU'RE NOT COMING NEAR ME WITH THAT THING.
I THINK THIS TRANQUILIZER SAYS OTHERWISE...

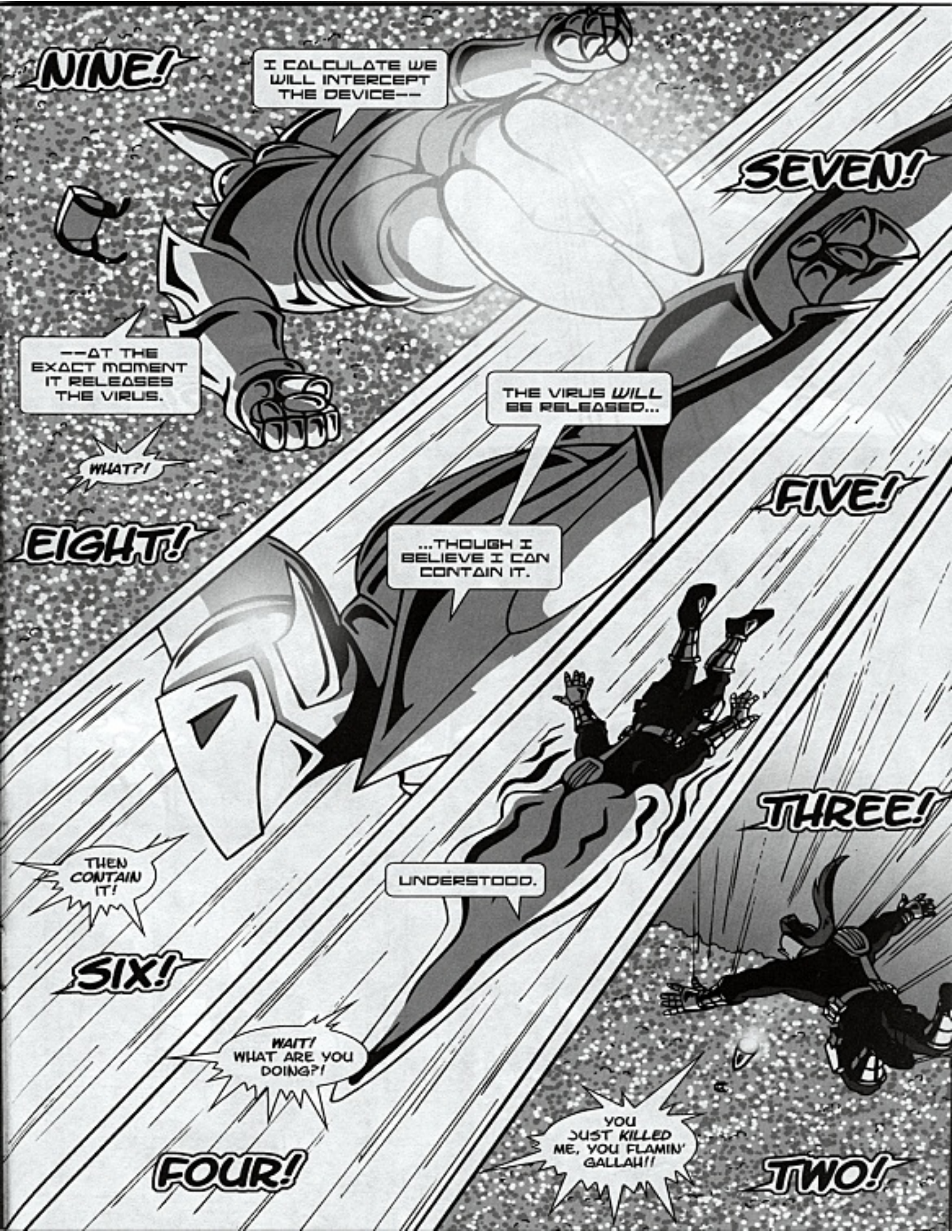
NICE OF YOU TO SHOW UP.
"YES, DINGO, THANKS FOR SAVING ME FROM A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH."
JUST BRING HIM ALONG...
WELL, YOU COULD TAKE ME IN...
...OR YOU COULD SAVE TIMES SQUARE FROM FANG AND THE CV-1997.
WAIT! WHAT ABOUT US?!
WE'LL COME BACK FOR YOU. ALL OF YOU!.
CV-WHAT?
NOW YOU HAVE TO CURE US, RIGHT?

THIS IS YOUR ROMANTIC WAY TO SPEND NEW YEAR'S EVE...
...PACKED LIKE SARDINES IN A SUB-ZERO FREEZER?
OH, GIVE IT A REST, MARGOT.
SIXTY SECONDS, TRI!
00:58

TRI, LOOK!
HMMM?
UH, NEVER MIND...
ALL RIGHT, PULL OVER, MISFIT!
THAT'S MUTATE TO YOU, BUB!
ALL RIGHT, PULL OVER, MISFIT!
HEY, WHERE'D HE GO?!

DOC AND HIS DAMN DRAMA!
...COULDN'T GIVE ME A BUTTON TO PRESS OR SOMETHING.
YIKES!
HE JUST HAD TO RELEASE THE VIRUS EXACTLY AT MIDNIGHT...
SORRY! THAT NET AIN'T MUTATE-SAFE!
EAT LIGHTNING, SCHMUCK-O!

IT'S OKAY, YAMA, WE GOT HIM!
IT'S OKAY, YAMA, WE GOT HIM!
.....
WHAT KEEPS HAPPENING?!
SCREW IT! THIS THING CAN POP WITHOUT ME!
00:11
TEN!
00:10


NINE!
I CALCULATE WE WILL INTERCEPT THE DEVICE--
SEVEN!
--AT THE EXACT MOMENT IT RELEASES THE VIRUS.
WHAT?!
THE VIRUS WILL BE RELEASED...
FIVE!
EIGHT!
...THOUGH I BELIEVE I CAN CONTAIN IT.
THREE!
THEN CONTAIN IT!
UNDERSTOOD.
SIX!
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
FOUR!
YOU JUST KILLED ME, YOU FLAMIN' GALLAH!!
TWO!

ONE!
00:01
ZERO!
POOF
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
AAAA

YOU THINK YOU'RE THE FIRST GARGOYLE I'VE FRIED?!
I ADVISE YOU NOT TO USE YOUR ELECTRICITY.
MATRIX'S DEVICE CHANNELS EVERY SHOCK BACK INTO YOU.
KINDA FIGURED THAT OUT FOR MYSELF.
STILL CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DUMPED ME...
I ASSUMED YOU DID NOT WANT TO BE MUTATED...
...AND I CALCULATED HUNTER COULD SAVE YOU.
I HAD TO THINK ABOUT IT.
ALL RIGHT, WE'RE... BACK...

SHHHH, KIDS. IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT...
WHAT--WHAT HAPPENED...?
SEVARIUS HAD A KEY OR SOMETHING. HE JUST *WALKED* OUT...
I GUESS TASHA FINALLY REALIZED THERE WASN'T GONNA BE ANY CURE...
HEY, HOW MANY MUTANTS DOES IT TAKE TO SCREW IN A LIGHT BULB...?
THREE TO SIT THERE AND ONE TO HANG A--
OOF!

WHOA, MATE, STEP BACK!
YOU WOULD BE WISE TO RELEASE ME...
YAMA, HE'S NOT WORTH IT...
I'M NOT! I'M REALLY NOT!
YAMA, WHAT'D SHE WHISPER?
REDEMPTION
FINE. DON'T TELL ME.

SEVARIUS IS IN THE WIND... FOR NOW.
WE ALLOWED "THUG" TO TAKE THE CHILDREN SOMEPLACE HE CALLED "THE LABYRINTH"...
...WELL, HE SEEMED TO FEEL THEY'D BE SAFE THERE, SIR.
"SIR"? WHO'S SHE TALKING TO?
SINCE WHEN DO YOU CALL ANYONE "SIR"?
SIR, PLEASE RECONSIDER. I DO NOT THINK HE'S A GOOD FIT FOR THE SQUAD.
WHO'S NOT A GOOD FIT? THUG? ME?
HEY, PAL! GUESS WHO JUST MADE THE TEAM?!
GRRRR...
TO BE CONTINUED

Wanted, Posters!

• The next Gathering of the Gargoyles, our annual convention, is fast approaching. In fact, by the time you see this, it may have happened already, but just in case: we're in Chicago this year: June 27-30, 2008. Guests include myself, Bad Guys artist Karine Charlebois, Thom Adcox (the voice of "Lexington"), and Keith David (the voice of "Goliath"). And if you did miss it, start planning now for 2009 in Los Angeles. Check out www.gatheringofthegargoyles.com! I'll also be attending ConVergence in July 3-6, 2008 in Bloomington, MN. One of many, many guests. For more info, check out http://www.convergence-con.org/.

• *Gargoyles, Season One* and *Gargoyles, Season Two, Volume One* are both currently available on DVD. Also available: our first *Gargoyles* trade paperback, collecting the first half of the Clan-Building saga. And Hot Topic has *Gargoyles* T-shirts! Please help us SPREAD THE WORD!

• Stop by Ask Greg (www.s8.org/gargoyles/askgreg), where I answer questions about *Gargoyles, Bad Guys* and about the industry, including my current gig as Supervising Producer of the new animated series *The Spectacular Spider-Man,* which premiered in March 2008. You can post comments and questions about this issue as well – and maybe see them reprinted right here at *Wanted, Posters!* And on *that* note:

Chip writes...

Man, this was so worth it. I swear every issue that comes out just gets better and better.

Yama's characterization was fantastic, and the scene with him and Sora was absolutely beautiful. Powerful and emotional...

Fang/Fred Sykes was great... When Robyn first spoke to Yama I figured he was supposed of go chasing after Fang or something, but I was wrong. Instead the RS fights the robots from Sesame Street. (1,2,3,4,5,6, Seven... Seven deadly robots Mwahahaha!)

Yama always reminded me of my dad. I kinda see him as my dad if he had been born in the Gargoyles Universe as a garg. My dad (who incidentally had a birthday the day this came out) is obsessed with Japanese culture and especially Samurai so this was strangely fitting. Plus my dad collects Japanese weapons and Yama is armed to the teeth. (I count two katanas, a tachi, four ninja stars, two daggers and nunchaku.)

Matrix is weird, that's all I have to say on that.

Robyn/Hunter is interesting. I get the feeling that she kind of admires gargoyles/tengu now, but she's still quite prejudiced. The stick was unnecessary; the carrot would have worked.

Dingo feels for Yama, and, heck, I think he genuinely likes the tengu/gargoyle. Speaking of which, I think that Dingo and Robyn are already attracted to each other. I think that caught her off guard and so she does little things to get under his skin.

And so Sevarius comes to bust Fang out... again. What is this, the third time someone broke into the Labyrinth? Fourth... I forgot about Awakenings. Security in the Labyrinth SUCKS! Thug: Somebody broke into the Labyrinth again. Al: Must be Wednesday.

And the cameos dotted about were the sprinkles on top. Vinnie, Karine's avatar Kanthara (as a human), Brendan, Margo, Shari, Claw, Benny, Greg B, Mara, and I think I'm missing someone but oh well.

Bad Guys RULES...

[The preceding was edited for space and proofread.]

Next issue: What's on the mysterious island the Squad has so desperately been trying to reach? Who sent the flying Robots? And how much does Dingo know about their attacker – a figure from his past? Find out in *GARGOYLES: BAD GUYS, "Redemption: Chapter V: Strangled"*!

BUT FIRST... Xanatos makes his final play for the Rock – in broad daylight when the gargoyles sleep as stone! But will the Illuminati be pleased with the end result? And what's this obsession over Fox's new shoes? Get the final pieces of our non-linear puzzle in *GARGOYLES, "CLAN-BUILDING, Chapter 9: Rock Of Ages"*!

Keep out of trouble,

Greg Weisman
June 2008

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